



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Toxic Release Inventory

www.idem.IN.gov

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Description:

- The Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) is a database of information about releases and transfers of toxic chemicals from manufacturing facilities. TRI's primary function is to inform communities, citizens, company employees and managers of potential chemical releases and environmental waste generated by facilities in their community.
- TRI information collection is federally mandated. Facilities must report their releases of toxic chemicals to the TRI on an annual basis. Information is submitted by the manufacturing facility to the state and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) on an annual basis. The TRI contains information on releases of nearly six hundred fifty (650) chemicals and chemical categories.
- The TRI contains information about the types and amounts of toxic chemicals that are released each year into the air, water and land as well as information on the quantities of toxic chemicals sent to other facilities for waste management.
- As a result, there are two important aspects of TRI: it aids local governments in preparation for response to chemical emergencies; and it guides the focus of IDEM's pollution prevention and technical assistance outreach efforts.

Environmental Impacts:

- TRI data, in conjunction with other information, can be used as a starting point in evaluating releases and other waste management activities which involve toxic chemicals. The determination of potential risk depends upon many factors, including the toxicity of the chemical, the fate of the chemical, and the amount and duration of human or other exposure to the chemical after it is released. It is important to remember it is not possible to ascertain levels of exposure or risk by using TRI data alone. For additional information on using TRI data, please refer to U.S. EPA's brochure, [Factors to Consider When Using TRI Data](#)  [pdf].

IDEM's Role:

- The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial, and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy.
- IDEM's Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance (OPPTA) collects the annually reported TRI data. OPPTA uses the data to look at trends in order to work with industries to reduce waste at the source, use less toxic alternatives, and identify opportunities to recycle and reuse materials.
- IDEM also releases an annual report to the public summarizing trends in the TRI for Indiana facilities during the most recent reporting year.

Business' Role:

- Facilities must file a TRI report if they:
 - Employ ten (10) or more employees;
 - Fall under a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code which requires them to report; and
 - Manufacture, process or otherwise use a listed toxic chemical above established thresholds.
- More than one thousand (1,000) Hoosier facilities report to TRI each year. Facilities submit reports about their yearly chemical releases and waste management activities by July 1st of the following year.

More Information:

- For more information on the TRI in Indiana, visit IDEM's Web site at <http://www.in.gov/idem/4586.htm>.
- For questions and concerns, contact IDEM's Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance at (800) 988-7901.
- For information on TRI reporting requirements, visit U.S. EPA's web site at <http://www.epa.gov/tri/index.htm> or call (800) 424-9346.